



## **FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK MINUTES**

April 13, 2021 at 7pm

Recording of the Meeting: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/exec/wosg/index.html>

### **1) Welcome (7:00pm)**

- a. PRESENT: Rob, June, Fatmata, Shane, Brian, June, Rachael, Ken, Kim, Barry, and Daniel; Dave, Elisse, and Bruce were necessarily absent.
- b. Pete announced the meeting is being recorded.
- c. Pete noted Elisse has a work conflict and Dave had an emergency. Pete asked the Board to approve him to chair the meeting for the evening; approved.

### **2) Minutes from March 9, 2021; approved**

### **3) Discussion**

- a. New FOWO Logo Choices and Report - Kim discussed the logo presented to the Board which was approved. She went over the intern process and program she has been working on. It will be part-time pay, with a grant from the Do-Good Institute for 10 weeks.
- b. Briefing - 2021 Reimaging Public Safety Chat with Caroline Sturgis – Barry gave an overview of FOWO meeting with Caroline Sturgis on March 30<sup>th</sup>. He used Caroline's presentation, noting about 70 people participated in the process. Discussion included a grant program to residents to help with community issues; that Districts 3 & 4 have different needs from the other parts of the County; why not just begin the programs and keep the Police force; HHS program people can be deployed for mental health issues; and the special team for drug investigations to be eliminated to reduce police interaction (not widely received). Board agreed to wait until the County's working group has gotten further along in the process; then send a letter of opinion.
- c. White Flint Metro BioHealth and Higher Education Campus – Pete
  - I. Pete noted the letters received by the Executive and Council and then shared an aerial of the White Flint Metro site. He also elaborated on the letters content, assured the FOWO the Executive intends to treat all the community's needs equally, and he will respond to the letters. He mentioned the history of past decisions with respect to development and transportation that benefitted the West County and have hurt the East County. Pete reminded the Board about the \$50k for FY21 and the \$100K for FY22 earmarked by the Executive for FOWO. The CEX Staff is working on a strategy which includes revisiting with various HOAs and other outreach methods. Rob shared a report by the Montgomery County Economic Advisory Group published in November 2020. The report is titled "Planning for a Post-Pandemic Era: An Economic Roadmap to Recovery & Long-Term Success" published in November 2020.

The East County and White Oak are barely mentioned as primary focus is on the West County. Rob suggested the Board send a letter about dissatisfaction with the report and request support for research centers coming to White Oak. The report committee meets again in 90 days and the FOWO would like a seat at the table. Pete is to investigate the matter with MCEDC.

- 4) Updates from Lt. Cole – Lt. Cole was necessarily absent.
- 5) Updates from Pete – Chair opted to table for the sake of time.
- 6) Updates from the Board – Chair opted to table for the sake of time.
- 7) From the Public – Opportunity to Bring up a Topic Not on the Agenda
  - a. Jewru – asked if the Board would like to co-sponsor a mass vaccination event. Volunteers to help take names. It will be on April 24<sup>th</sup> at White Oak Garden on Lockwood.
  - b. Margie thanked the Board for having the discussion on White Flint and White Oak.
- 8) Adjourn (9:35pm)